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anatomy there should be regular methods of description, such as have been so successfully employed in systematic botany. The progress of botany now, as of all sciences, is towards simplicity, as for instance, all the parts of plants, the most complicated, are reduced to root, stem, and leaves, and these in turn are but multiplied cells, proceeding from a plasma of uniform appearance. So methods of description should be reduced to like simplicity and comprehensiveness.

The author hopes that the progress of the science and in a very small degree the application of his own counsels may render useless in a few years the great part of the present volume. The last part of it, however, will be long consulted, for it is a grand list of herbariums that are of use in authenticating species. From this list can be learned just where at present are the herbariums of authors who have published and the famous collections of explorers. For this botanists will be very grateful for it will help in securing information that might not otherwise have been obtained.

ALBINO ARETHUSA BULBOSA.—Mr. Fred Hoard, of Providence, R. I., has just brought me a perfect albino of *Arethusa bulbosa*, L. The yellow lines of the labellum are retained.—W. W. BAILEY.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.—*Catalogue of North American Musci*. Eugene A. Rau and A. B. Harvey. This neat catalogue of over fifty pages is intended to furnish a check and exchange list, and also a basis for the arrangement of genera, etc., in herbaria. It undoubtedly supplies a want felt by many botanists, and will be received with thankfulness. The range is a large one, including all North America, every authentic species reported from Mexico to the Arctic region, appearing in the list. Of course, the species are all numbered to facilitate exchanges, and the numbers mount up pretty well, rising to 1,252, distributed among 177 genera.

*Catalogue of Trees and Shrubs*, native and introduced in the Horticultural Gardens adjacent to Horticultural Hall, Fairmount Park, Philadelphia. This catalogue contains a hundred pages and is a good one but no man's name appears as author and we will have to take it as an anonymous production. The catalogue seems to be made more for the convenience of gardeners and amateur botanists, than for professional botanists. A great deal of work has been done in the matter of synonyms and brief descriptions in the hope that the species may be recognized. Both genera and species are arranged in alphabetical order, and as the author acknowledges his sin in this matter, his reasons seem to be very good. It is a capital catalogue and does just what it professes to do, and we can imagine nothing more convenient in the hands of a botanist visiting Fairmount Park, or one desiring to know what was under cultivation there.

*Bulletin of the Torrey Botanical Club*, May.—The noticeable feature in this number is Mr. Davenport's description of a new fern accompanied by an excellent plate, drawn by Mr. C. E. Faxon. The new fern is *Notholaena Grayi*, and was collected among the mountains